

SUBJECT: Solicitation for Fiscal Year 2002 WIC Special Project Grants

TO: WIC State Agencies

The Food and Nutrition Service (FNS) is soliciting applications for Fiscal Year (FY) 2002 WIC Special Project Grants. For FY 2002, FNS has set aside up to \$1 million to support WIC Special State projects. If FNS does not award all of the special project funds, the balance of the funds may be allocated to support other WIC initiatives. On the other hand, if the total of highly responsive applications received in response to this RFA exceeds the \$1 million FY 2002 allocation, FY 2003 money may be used to fund additional projects without undertaking a separate solicitation process, contingent on the availability of funds for this purpose. The first round of awards will be made by September 30, 2002 using the FY 2002 \$1 million allocation, and the second round in January 2003, if funds are available.

FNS is using the same model that has been used since FY 1999 for the WIC Special Project Grants that combines elements of the various approaches that have been used over the years. The model designates a specific focus area for the grants in which a range of projects will be possible. These projects will be awarded as cooperative agreements. Extensive dissemination of project results is expected so that other State agencies will have the opportunity to replicate the project and/or learn from its results.

Concept paper funding, begun in FY 1999, will continue to be available. Concept paper funding for FY 2002 will be used to develop a concept paper into a full grant proposal for the FY 2003 solicitation cycle.

As in FY 2001, the theme for FY 2002 WIC Special Project Grants is “**Revitalizing Quality Nutrition Services in WIC.**”

Any State agency planning to apply for FY 2002 funding for a WIC Special Project Grant should submit a Letter of Intent by April 1, 2002. State agencies that apply for FY 2002 WIC Special Project Grants are also allowed to submit Concept Paper applications for FY 2002 funding. State agencies are allowed to receive funding for both concept paper development and for WIC Special Project Grants.

Attached are the requests for applications for the FY 2002 WIC Special Project Grants (**Application A**) and the FY 2002 WIC Special Projects Concept Paper Development (**Application B**) which explain how to apply for funding. The submission of an application does NOT guarantee funding. Please read the contents of this package carefully to ensure that all required documents are submitted. Applications for both packages are due **no later than 5:00 p.m. on Monday, June 3, 2002. Faxed copies will not be accepted.**

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If you have questions or need additional materials, contact Lisa Johnson at (703) 305-2848.

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Attachments

cc: Sheku G. Kamara